

The Catholic Library World

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 4

JANUARY 15, 1933

No. 5

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AT CHICAGO LARGEST AND MOST SUCCESSFUL EVER HELD

The annual Mid-winter Conference of the Catholic Library Association held December 27th and 28th at Loyola University and Mundelein College, Chicago, was the largest and most enthusiastic in the annals of Catholic library history. Preceded by a Mass celebrated in the Community Chapel of Loyola by Rev. J. M. Nugent, O.P., Fenwick High School, Oak Park, Ill., at which Very Rev. F. V. Corcoran, C.M., President of De Paul University, preached the sermon, Catholic librarians assembled for their first session at 10:30 A.M. Rev. William Kane, S.J., librarian at Loyola and chairman of the Conference committee, welcomed visiting librarians in the name of the president. Rev. Sylvester Briemaier, O.M.Cap., librarian, St. Anthony's Monastery, Marathon, Wis., was introduced as presiding officer. Rev. Frederick E. Hillenbrand, librarian, St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, read an interesting paper on the practical problems presented by the Index of Forbidden Books. Rev. Francis S. Betten, S.J., Marquette University, Milwaukee, in opening the discussion reminded all that Canon Law does not now demand that forbidden books be locked up. At Marquette such books are shelved with the rest but catalogue cards are marked "Closed Shelves." Rev. Placidus Kempf, O.S.B., librarian, St. Meinrad's Abbey, St. Meinrad, Ind., stated that at St. Meinrad's forbidden books were segregated in "Devil's Corner," and urged the need of keeping such books from the immature. Sister Marie Cecil, St. Catherine's Library School, St. Paul, questioned the advisability of marking cards, since this practice might stimulate the curiosity of students who could then get forbidden books in the public library. Father Betten held that such danger was exaggerated. Mother M. Cephas, New Rochelle College, N. Y., suggested a secret mark on cards, the significance of which would be unknown to students.

Function of Library in Graduate School

Rev. John McCormick, S.J., of Loyola, in treating of the function of the library in the Graduate School briefly considered some special needs of graduate students, emphasizing the importance of bibliographic aids. Miss Mary Louise McPartlin of Loyola opened discussion of this paper by pointing out that few libraries are equipped to meet graduate needs and must consequently send students to other libraries, or borrow on inter-library loan. At this point Father Hillenbrand asked if any one could advise him of a

complete list of European Catholic periodicals. Father Sylvester indicated that a fairly complete list was in the *Index Literarius*. Sister Cecil suggested that the C.L.A. should try to get Catholic college libraries within definite regions to specialize in particular fields, and then permit mutual borrowings. In this way more intensive collections of books could be made available with economy. The question was then raised: "Who should pay for inter-library postage, student or library?" After considerable discussion the general opinion was that the student should defray postage expense. Father Betten stated that at Marquette the student pays fifty cents, while the library stands the balance.

Upon adjournment, all present were the guests of Loyola University at a specially-prepared turkey dinner.

The second or afternoon session assembled at Loyola at 2:30, Tuesday, Dec. 27th. Miss Jeannette J. Murphy, librarian, St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind., occupied the chair. Miss Murphy called attention to the fact that the preceding session had discussed principles, the second session would discuss personnel problems, while the closing session would be devoted to a consideration of material problems. Under the topic, "Magnifying the Librarian's Job," Miss Eva M. Perry, of Loyola, outlined possibilities of help which each librarian might draw from a strong Catholic Library Association. She stressed the fact that the librarian is armed with Catholic principles, and warned against dangers of alien principles as well as a snobbish caste spirit which can create hostility to the librarian's work.

Guiding Students' Reading

There is a marked difference between the public library and school library in the matter of guidance, asserted Sister Mary Robert Hugh, librarian, Mundelein College, in presenting her paper, "The School Librarian as Guide to Students' Reading." In schools direct guidance of students' reading should be done rather by teachers; librarians guide indirectly by assisting teachers, selecting books, etc. In opposing this view, Sister M. Reparata, O.P., librarian, Rosary College, River Forest, made a strong plea for the ideal librarian as "Professor of Books," and instanced Rollins College as a school which realized that ideal. Sister Cecilia felt that pushing books was futile; interest must be created in the student's mind. Father Betten harked back to Miss Perry's paper. He thought that the importance of the "little things," the underground work done by librarians, should be magnified.

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The Catholic Library World

Issued on the 15th of each month, except July and August.

John M. O'Loughlin
Editor

Address all communications to the editor, Boston College Library,
Chestnut Hill, Mass.

Subscription Two Dollars Per Year

Entered as second class matter November 16, 1931, at the Post Office
at Boston, Mass., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

"A GREAT SUCCESS"

The above words adequately epitomize the accomplishments of the Mid-winter Conference at Chicago. More than four-score enthusiastic advocates of Catholic library development from ten States gathered at Loyola University and Mundelein College to exchange opinions with regard to problems confronting librarians. The program was very practical, predicated as it was on principles, personnel and material problems. To those who read papers the Catholic Library Association owes a debt of gratitude, for in their preparation much thought and study was evident. We hope to publish all of these papers in the columns of the WORLD.

Perhaps the most trying task of any conference is that of secretary. In the absence of Father Etzig, Mr. Robert M. McDonnell of Loyola University Library, was drafted into service. Mr. McDonnell, one of our newer members, discharged his assignment with thorough care, and to him readers of the WORLD are indebted for the complete report of the several meetings. The presidents of Loyola and Mundelein merit profound appreciation for the delightful hospitality accorded their guests. Father Kane and Sister Mary Robert Hugh did everything within their power to carry out the wishes of their superiors.

Are such conferences worth while? If the reports which have already reached us form any criterion, those who attended the Chicago sessions of 1932 went away armed with many practical suggestions which will help them in the prosecution of their work. Of particular interest to us was the fact that the program was not a cut-and-dried affair. Decided differences of opinion asserted themselves in the discussions. From sound differences there always evolve substantial aids to improvement.

UNSELFISH DEVOTION

When magazines or periodicals are mentioned among Catholic librarians, there immediately looms that distinctive advocate of magazine trading—Father Sylvester Brielmaier. We were going to say that with him it is a hobby; perhaps it could be more accurately described as an affliction. But it is an affliction of hard work which he invites upon himself because he is so unselfishly devoted to this important phase of library work. At Cincinnati, last June, Father Sylvester volunteered to act as the medium of exchange for any who wished to participate. Those

of us who took advantage of the opportunity immeasurably benefited. In another column we publish Father Sylvester's paper read at Chicago. We advise all of our members to accept his invitation and become parties to magazine trading.

Perpetuation of magazine files is building for the future. Because those who preceded us did not so build (the reasons are immaterial now) we seek high and low for missing numbers which destroy the continuity of sets which should stand complete on our shelves. "Young" libraries, particularly, now enjoy advantages in times past denied their older and larger sister-libraries. With comparatively small outlay of money, under the direction of Father Sylvester, it is now possible to fill many gaps which might cause embarrassment in the years to come. Because periodicals are seldom consulted is no reason why they should be allocated to some obscure corner as a last resting place before discarding. There are thousands of books on our shelves which are as infrequently opened, yet no sane librarian would think of clearing them out for the trite reason that they are not used. Catholic library development is in its very infancy. The preservation of worthwhile periodicals, especially Catholic, cannot for long be divorced from any library which lays even a small claim to being a "storehouse of knowledge."

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A NOBLE LESSON

Undoubtedly some of our members place a higher value on membership in the Catholic Library Association than do others. Of course, there is no universal basis of appraisal, but we are occasionally impressed by the loyalty and sincerity of some who take the trouble to tell us why they became members, and why they cannot do more than they are actually doing for the cause. One good member in remitting individual dues humbly apologized for not at least sending institutional dues. We quote a paragraph from this letter: "We would gladly contribute the institutional dues if the drain on our purse were not so severe. Our hospital is always filled with charity patients; the parents of the boarders at our Academy have stopped paying their dues; daily we are called on to feed at least fifty to sixty hungry men; and on top of all this we are faced with remitting a heavy building debt incurred when we erected a new convent and academy. Hence we hope that you will understand our situation."

We can assure this member that we fully understand the situation. It is a signal tribute to the ideals of the C.L.A. when such a sacrifice is made to advance the cause of Catholic library progress. There is a noble lesson in this one membership.

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Copies of the December issue of the *Catholic Book Survey* may be had by addressing the Cardinal Hayes Literature Committee, 23 East 51st St., New York, N. Y. The *Survey* is an invaluable aid to Catholic librarians.

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE SUCCESSFUL

(Continued from Page 33)

Father Sylvester Brielmaier in a lively talk reviewed the work done last summer in periodical exchanges. Thoroughly enthused with the importance of this feature, Father Sylvester generously offered to devote next July and August to a more extensive exchange. In the ensuing discussion it was suggested that no effort be made to balance exchanges, for in the long run they would balance themselves. Father Sylvester negated this idea, feeling that as far as possible exchanges should be balanced.

December 28th at Mundelein College

Mundelein College was the scene of the third session which opened at 9:30 A.M., December 28th. Sister Mary Robert Hugh, librarian, welcomed her guests in the name of the college. Sister Mary Archangela, Alvernia High School, Chicago, presided. Miss Helen Schnoor, librarian, De Paul University, dwelt on the material problem of "Building Up the Small Library." In offering practical suggestions, she drew largely from her own experiences as to the manner in which book collections might be augmented. Sister Arnoldine, S.S.C., Mallinckrodt College, Wilmette, Ill., emphasized the value of teachers' cooperation in classes. Mother Cephas suggested notifying department heads of new purchases. Father Betten opined that money, devotion of librarians and advertising were the chief things needed in building up libraries. It was pointed out that a reliable book agent was indispensable in acquiring out of print books. Mr. P. J. McCarthy of Chicago was introduced as a useful medium in making such acquisitions.

The final paper, "The Value of Analytic Cataloging," was read by Sister Anna Loretto, librarian, Academy of Our Lady, Peoria, Ill. Sister Loretto stressed analytics as the means of bringing out hidden treasures, and gave some excellent illustrations. Rev. T. Talbot, De Paul University, asserted that Catholic bibliographies were needed more than analytic cataloging. Miss Jeannette Murphy rejoined that even the largest libraries must use analytics; while Sister Reparata indicated that the Wilson Indexes took the place of analytic cards, and warned against duplicating work.

Business Meeting

Miss Eva M. Perry, member of the Executive Committee, presided at the business meeting in the absence of Father Etzig, detained through illness. Following the reports of the treasurer, editor of the *C.P.I.* and editor of the *WORLD*, discussion centered on the need of individual efforts in securing new members. Father Kempf and Sisters Bernadette and Luella gave accounts of the work being done by the membership committee. Miss Lilian Gaskell, librarian, Mt. Mary College, Chicago, submitted a resolution of gratitude to Loyola University and Mundelein College for their splendid hospitality. Following its unanimous adoption, another Mid-winter Conference adjourned *sine die*.

MORAL FOR TODAY

By MARION BARROWS, M.A.

Editor, *Catholic Periodical Index*

When the whole story is too long to tell, pick out a part that points a moral. The whole long story of the *Catholic Periodical Index* might inspire a Chaucer; it is interesting enough. These fifty periodicals we index are as lively a company of personalities as did wend to Canterbury, and perhaps each indexer would like to be the Chaucer for his own pilgrim. Only the indexers know what a delicate art they practise already, trying to represent each periodical truly and fairly and usefully through the medium of packages of concise indexing slips. Then, when those slips assemble in thousands, it is more than alphabetical order they clamor for. Headings and references and details of policy and style will make endless problems as long as there is a Catholic Library Association to deliberate over them. I think they will always be, as Bishop Walsh describes the Chinese language, our "irritating delight and fascinating despair." All this, however, is regretfully passed over now, because the part with the moral for today begins when the bound volume goes out into the world.

To make its way in the world, the book now depends on the cumulating success of its many separate contacts and relationships. It must be used, or our work is wasted. It must be known and valued by the right people. It must be bought by subscribers enough to pay its expenses. These are three necessities, and it has been an impressive experience to see how much they depend on varied activities of individuals. Here is the challenge and the plea to every member of the Catholic Library Association. To point the moral I have chosen a series of exhibits, all true, intended to edify or to shock, to show what has or has not been done, or what needs to be done, by personal influence.

Exhibit 1 (a). Lists of cooperating indexers and lists of donors of money have, of course, been published already, though it is impossible to show adequately how generous these friends really have been. To them and to others, especially librarians and editors and their associates, our gratitude is due for additional help of every kind. Nothing is more encouraging than the readiness of such people to be helpful to the *C. L. A.* and the *C. P. I.*

(b). More recently one organization has offered to repeat its donation of money annually. At least three others are now giving the *C. P. I.* a new and specific recommendation. One offers to insert a page of our promotional literature with some of its own notices soon to be mailed—twenty-two hundred copies. Most of these things have been done in response to someone's particular request.

Exhibit 2 (a). Father A, in an address to more than twelve hundred teachers of his diocese, introduced and recommended the *C. P. I.*

(b). Mother B foresaw an opportunity in the coming chapter of her Order, which would assemble in her convent a large number of delegates. Mother

promptly obtained a supply of sample copies and advertising, displayed the *C. P. I.* in a conspicuous place, and told the visiting nuns about it.

(c). Miss C knows some people who were making the arrangements for a convention. It was her idea that the *C. P. I.*, with posters and promotional literature, be placed among the convention exhibits. Entirely through her initiative introductions were made, and with her help the display was arranged.

Exhibit 3. Comparison of the list of letters sent out by the Wilson Company with the list of orders received, reveals some absentees from the latter which are hard to account for. From one Catholic university two letters of inquiry have come recently, from two faculty members, but so far no order. Considering who the people are, this seems strange. Fortunately, in that neighborhood there is a member of the C. L. A. who has now been asked to undertake whatever missionary or diplomatic work may be required.

Exhibit 4 (a). Bishop A has refused assistance to the *C. P. I.* and has told us why. He says people should be encouraged to read books, not magazines.

(b). Bishop B has suggested to some lay organizations that a good piece of Catholic action for them would be to place the *C. P. I.* in public libraries, and they telegraphed to find out the cost.

Exhibit 5 (a). The *C. P. I.* indexes twelve publications from outside the United States. In the beginning some of them, having received review copies, made encouraging comment; one of them hoped "that many English Catholic libraries will support it by subscribing."

(b). Among the orders for the 1931 volume so far, there are only one from England, very few from Canada, and no others outside the United States. Therefore in December the Wilson Company sent special letters to 295 foreign universities, and the N. C. W. C. News Service sent their news story on the *C. P. I.* to papers in thirteen foreign countries. Now what?

Exhibit 6 (a). A good many of the indexed periodicals carry regularly, on their Contents page, a notice of their indexing in the *C. P. I.* Some have called their readers' attention to this and other activities of the C. L. A. by means of reviews, editorials, special articles, and advertisements.

(b). Others ignore all requests for publicity and seem to take no satisfaction in being among the chosen fifty. It seems impossible that a few certain editors should be unaware that their magazines are indexed. But personal letters to them, asking only a little information and enclosing a stamp, stay unanswered.

(c). One editor, in reply to questions on authors' names, sent us a complete list of the names of all living professed members of his community, and that list is supplemented annually. Several other editors give similar cooperation so generously and carefully that they form practically a board of consultants in our work.

(d). Every now and then some editor writes to request the indexing of his periodical. Some apparently are telling their friends to write too; one has proposed a volunteer indexer; some send sample copies, including a monthly from Ireland and a weekly from England that come regularly.

Exhibit 7 (a). Prominent Catholic publisher A tells me that the *C. P. I.* is a good thing and he wishes us success, but in his office they don't need it. Reasons why: (1) They take lots of magazines. (2) They remember what they read. In fact, people often write to *them* and ask, "Where did I see that article?" and then these gifted memories go into a huddle and the public gets indexing service free. That is what goes on in his office and I got it straight from him.

(b). Prominent Catholic publisher B, also a great subscriber to magazines and a most generous lender of them, has subscribed to the *C. P. I.* from the beginning. In a published review he writes that the *C. P. I.* is "to be congratulated for a real service rendered to Catholic literature, as well as for having weathered the strange blighting apathy so often accorded Catholic works of this kind. . . . The *Index* has become indispensable to us in our work. . . ."

This little exhibition is not by any means a complete testimonial of gratitude, any more than it displays the whole roll of honor or the whole rogues' gallery. Please give it a thought only as suggestive of examples to be followed, or wrongs to be righted, or ideas to be developed, or odd jobs to be done, anywhere, no two alike, by any well-wishers of the *C.P.I.* Perhaps you are just the one to say a word to this bishop or that editor or those librarians or to someone else who needs to be converted to *C. P. I.* consciousness. Very obviously, the hard labor and the skilled labor which the Catholic Library Association is doing already, can aspire to its best possible productivity through such informal personal cooperation by individual members, each working his own field of influence in his own way.

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ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY HAS 250,000 VOLUMES

More than a quarter of a million books are housed on 29,618 feet of shelf space in the combined libraries of St. Louis University, it was disclosed by the Rev. Henry H. Regent, S.J., University librarian, who recently conducted the first complete census of the University's library facilities.

In addition to the above 29,618 feet, at present utilized, the libraries have provision for an extra 23,544 feet of shelf space for future expansion.

The complete figures, which are for the 1931-32 scholastic year, reveal several interesting facts, chief among them being the total annual expenditures of the University's libraries. During the past year \$42,205.90 was spent for books, journals, binding, new equipment, supplies and salaries.

According to Father Regnet, the average library spends approximately 55 per cent of its total outlay for salaries. In the present report total expenditures are listed at \$14,185.72, or about one-third of the total outlay.

"Contributed services" of members of various religious orders in the different library branches of the University, is the reason advanced by Father Regnet for this saving in operating expenses.

Included in the census were the Main Library and the following branches; Divinity, St. Mary's Kan.; Philosophy, Medicine and Dentistry; Law; Commerce and Finance; College of Arts and Sciences at Florissant; Fontbonne College; Maryville College; Webster College; Maryhurst Normal, Kirkwood, Mo.; Notre Dame Junior College and St. Mary's Junior College, O'Fallon, Mo.

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NEW FEATURES TO BE ADOPTED IN THE EXCHANGE OF PERIODICALS

By REV. SYLVESTER BRIELMAIER, O.M.CAP.
St. Anthony's Monastery, Marathon, Wis.

The clearing-house method of exchanges, which was tried out last August, has proved to be an efficient means of disposing of duplicate periodicals and of completing library files. For the benefit of those who are not acquainted with the method, I wish to explain it briefly. Each participant sends in a list of his duplicate magazines, and of the copies he needs for his files. The magazines are listed alphabetically, and preferably with a separate page allotted to each magazine. Each list is then compared with every other list, and a report is sent to each librarian, telling him which copies to send to various librarians, and which copies he is to receive in return. The value of the magazines is reckoned according to the subscription price, allowing one dollar extra for a bound volume. Each librarian pays the transportation charges for the items he receives.

The exchange of last August worked out very well, and over 5,000 copies of magazines were exchanged, although only nine librarians participated. I realize that many others were unable to participate because they could not make out their lists during the summer months, or knew nothing about the exchange, since there was no way of giving out a general announcement of the exchange after the Cincinnati meeting last June.¹ Consequently, I wish to announce that I shall conduct another clearing-house exchange during the coming months of July and August. All lists sent to me by July 1st will be compared with one another, and the reports sent out in the beginning of September. I expect a very large number of participants in this exchange. In fact there may be more participants and more lists than I can take care of during the summer. I am indeed grateful to my Superiors for generously permitting me to devote two months' time exclusively to this work, but after all two months have a certain limited number of days and hours. On an average it took an hour and 20

minutes to compare two lists last summer. Some lists had only a few pages whilst others ran to 70 and 80 pages. The average time for each comparison will hardly be less next summer. The work will probably proceed faster because of the experience of last summer, but I believe that the lists will be longer because of the six months' advance notice given. However, keeping the same average, if 20 librarians participate, 190 comparisons will be necessary, which means 253 hours of work. If 30 participate, 435 comparisons must be made, meaning 580 hours of work. That's about as much as can be squeezed into two months. When I stop to think of the possibility of 40 or 50 participants, it just gives me a complex of the jitters and the heeby-jeebies. As the number of participants increases, the advantage of the individual increases mathematically in the same proportion, but the amount of work increases geometrically. I had at first intended to limit the number of participants, but have since devised a plan whereby each participant will obtain equal consideration, so that if I should not be able to compare all lists, each one will profit by the same number of comparisons.

I have two new features to add to the exchange, neither of which will take much additional time, and both of which will probably help to remedy a serious defect noticed in the last exchange. The defect is this: After the exchange between the various libraries was balanced properly, I found that many a library—especially the larger libraries—still has many duplicates on hand which are needed by another librarian, but no exchange can be effected because the second librarian has nothing on his list to offer in return for these items.

In order to remedy this defect, it is my intention to include in the report a supplementary list of such items, so that the respective librarians may be enabled to negotiate a private exchange among themselves on a cash basis or in any other way they may agree upon. I believe every librarian will be glad to know where he can obtain copies which he still needs. The supplementary list will offer him this information. Since the supplementary list might be misunderstood by some librarians as imposing on them a veiled obligation of filling the additional wants of others without any return, two copies of the list will be sent to the librarian who possesses the additional copies. If he wishes, he may send one copy to the librarian who needs the copies. Those who prefer to have me send one copy to each of the librarians interested, will kindly specify this when sending me their lists.

A second feature to minimize this defect, is a book exchange. As was mentioned in the report of the last clearing-house exchange, the larger libraries profit little by the exchange because their magazine wants are few and very specific. And yet they have an abundant supply of duplicate magazines on hand. It is to their advantage and to ours, to get these duplicates back in circulation. Since we have no magazines to offer them, it occurred to me that many of

us might have duplicate books that would be of use to them. Incidentally there is no reason why our clearing-house should not be extended to include books. It seems advisable, however, to start this as an experiment, and consequently, on a small scale in connection with the magazine exchange. My plan is as follows: Those who are interested will make out a list of not more than 100 duplicate books which are in good condition. The list should indicate not only author and title, but also the number of pages, the date of publication, and the approximate present value of each book. This list should be sent to me by March 1st. I shall make out a cumulated list, arranging the books alphabetically according to authors, with a serial number for each, and the name of the library which has the book. A copy of this complete list will be sent to each participant by May 1st. Each participant will keep this list on file. When the magazine lists are sent to me by July 1st, they should indicate also the serial numbers of the books which the sender would like to obtain. Since the cumulated book-list will probably contain two or three thousand books, I wish to suggest that three-by-five slips of paper or cards be used, in order to simplify my work. When the report of the clearing-house is issued in September, it will give the serial number of the books each one is to receive or send out. I shall add a complete list of the serial numbers of books exchanged. Those who wish may then check these numbers off on their cumulated book-list, and the remainder will constitute a splendid second-hand catalogue of books which they may obtain by purchase or theft or other private agreement with the owners.

I have limited the number of duplicate books of each librarian to one hundred, because this should be merely an experiment, and a means of bolstering the magazine exchange. If it works out well, the book exchange may be undertaken separately the following year. I believe there is far less work in conducting a book exchange, and I may be able to take care of it in future during the school year. That will depend upon the outcome of the experiment. By 100 books I mean 100 titles, regardless of whether the title consists of one or of several volumes.

Librarians may find it hardest to determine the value of the books. However, I think that all will be satisfied if the value they fix is not more than a few hundred per cent out of the way. Our basis for the magazine exchange is the subscription price, and that basis surely cannot boast of great accuracy either. At times it is too high, and at times too low. It has the merit of being simple, and must stand until someone suggests something better.

It should not be necessary to warn librarians not to clutter up their library shelves with magazines which will serve no purpose. This applies especially to secular periodicals. Magazines that are not needed should not be put on the want lists. For example, I cannot understand why a seminary library should make any effort to complete volumes of the *Saturday*

Evening Post. And yet that is an example taken from life. The very ease with which magazines can be obtained through the exchange may tempt librarians to forget that they must always be guided by the specific purpose and actual needs of their respective libraries.

In conclusion I wish to say that the clearing-house exchange seems to have great possibilities for the future. I sometimes dream that it may develop into a regular service of the Catholic Library Association. It may even be possible, in due course of time, to make it a permanent, self-supporting feature of the Association. For instance, a fee of two or three per cent from participants would probably suffice to have a salaried manager of our exchanges throughout the year. Next summer's clearing-house ought to effect an exchange of magazines and books to the value of ten thousand dollars, and we are only beginning. If we foster the dream, or rather, if we keep the ideal before our mind, it may eventually be blessed with full realization.

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LIBRARY SCIENCE IN THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

By SISTER M. LOUISE, S.M.

Librarian, Bishop McDonnell Memorial High School, Brooklyn, N. Y.

This paper aims to give the procedure followed in the plan for teaching library science in the Bishop McDonnell Memorial High School at Brooklyn, New York. The plan is the result of experimentation over a period of six years. The institution mentioned is a central high school for girls and has an enrolment of 1,800 students. The school, financed by diocesan funds, allows the library a book budget of \$1,100 annually. The library is modern and completely equipped, having a grade "A" rating from the University of the State of New York. The library staff consists of two full-time Catholic trained librarians—both religious—a clerk and eight student library pages. The clerk receives the combined salary of the two librarians and contributes about one-tenth of their services. But we as religious know that our "strength must be as the strength of ten." The library pages give only one free period a week, to serve in the library for which they receive credits which may be offered towards school service. The library is open for the use of all from 8.30 A. M. to 4 P. M. Students may use the library during study periods for reading or reference, but not for text-book work. Books are circulated on an average of 300 daily. Books of religion, science, arts, biography and fiction are lent for one week with the right of renewal for one week. All other books are OVER-NIGHT books; i. e., they must be returned before nine o'clock the following morning. This OVER-NIGHT privilege works a kind of hardship on the librarians in creating a check-up problem, but it is well compensated for by the salutary influence it produces on the students who

are made to realize that they penalize themselves when they fail to consider the needs of others.

Scope of the Course in Library Science

From the days of our nursery rhymes we have been hearing that a little learning is a dangerous thing. True! But we are also aware that all rules are made firmer by their exceptions. Experience proves that a little knowledge of library science is the panacea for the ills of adolescence, for youth loves not learning. In assuming to teach library usage, even in miniature, one is well-nigh overcome by the magnitude of the subject. The results are gratifying, however, as the students through the remainder of their high school course manifest a marked ability to use the school library to its full capacity.

The scope of the course is necessarily brief, being limited to fifteen lessons, three of which are given to the first-term students, the remaining twelve lessons to these same students the following term. The course is required; it is not an elective. It receives school credit (5 per cent of a unit) to be offered towards graduation requirements. It is given one forty-five-minute period weekly for one term. Students who fail to pass the final examination must repeat the subject until a passing mark is earned.

Our first experiment in teaching this subject included five formal lessons to be given to every class in the school. The results were futile, and nothing worthwhile was accomplished by this plan, though it involved great waste in time and energy. The next year the plan was tried to give formal instruction in the use of library tools to fourth-year students only. This likewise was ineffectual, for the students were not responsive to the superficial treatment of a subject concerning which they felt thoroughly informed. The third year we worked out the experiment which is in practice now, to the seeming satisfaction of all concerned. The idea was evolved of teaching library science in the first year of high school in order that students beginning their secondary course might obtain, as early as possible, a workable knowledge of the facilities available in their own school library for accomplishing their daily assignments with ease and pleasure. Another motive for introducing the course at this stage was that the students might test their own fitness for one of the most ennobling careers open to women. Since they are introduced in the first year of high school to their future life work as possible teachers of languages or sciences or mathematics, it is profitable to them at this period of high school procedure to launch library science on their professional horizon. Besides, at this period of their high school education, their programs are least heavy and most flexible, while the students themselves are sufficiently impressionable. During the first term the beginners are allowed free use of the library for browsing. The first formal lesson in library science introduces the students to their school library, making known to them its regulations. At the same time they are required to fill out a plan of the library drawn up

for them and on which they must locate the books by classes and the various pieces of library equipment. The second lesson deals with "Care of Books," stressing proper handling and the enemies of books. The third lesson gives the student an opportunity to discuss the topic, "The Joys of Reading in Store for Me," by reference to the illustrated volumes and special editions. (To be Continued)

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NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Our tireless secretary, Rev. Peter J. Etzig, C.S.S.R., Redemptorist Seminary, Oconomowoc, Wis., was unable to attend the Mid-winter Conference having been stricken with an attack of the flu. We trust that he will be completely recovered when this issue of the WORLD reaches him.

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The suggestion (intended as a joke) made at Chicago that the degree of *Doctor of the Clearing-House* be conferred upon Father Sylvester Brielmaier was not without its merits.

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The misfortune of our inability to be present at Chicago was somewhat compensated for by the receipt of two communications. One written by a member speeding on her way to the Conference was accompanied by a new institutional membership; the other penned by one who was temporarily enjoying surroundings intended only for a prince of the Church was a rush note telling us that the Conference was a great success.

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Sponsored by the enthusiasm of Father Kane, the staff of the Cudahy Memorial Library, Loyola University, Chicago, can boast of 100 per cent membership enrollment in the C. L. A.

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Sister M. Canisius, director of Library Science, Nazareth College, Louisville, Ky., and Sister M. Bernadette, librarian of the same college, are doing yeoman work in signing up new members. Prior to the receipt of the campaign material prepared by secretary Father Etzig (who, by the way, has been doing the work of six Trojans), Sisters Canisius and Bernadette made up mimeographed forms for their personal use and distributed them to likely prospects. To date some fifteen new members have joined the C.L.A. as the result of this initiative.

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COMMUNICATIONS

NOTE: In the editor's report submitted to the Mid-winter Conference at Chicago it was announced that anonymous letters would be published provided they are accompanied by the names and addresses of the correspondents. This departure is made in order to accommodate those, especially religious, who do not desire to have their names appear in connection with their communications. Of course, the editor does not necessarily subscribe to sentiments expressed in letters.

Mr. Editor:

In the November issue of the *WORLD* reference was made to a proposed expansion of D.C. 348 for the publication of which permission was asked of Miss Dorcas Fellows. I am anxious to know what disposition was made of this matter.

SR. M. J. M.

After giving our request due consideration Miss Fellows withheld permission for the publication in our columns of the suggested expansion of Canon Law in the Dewey Classification. Miss Fellows properly expressed apprehension that this expansion might be accepted and used by most of our Catholic libraries, and this circumstance would cause widespread confusion with regard to the authentic and copyrighted Dewey classification of this subject. Rev. Valentine Schaaf, O.F.M., D.C.L., professor of Canon Law at Catholic University, Washington, D. C., spent many studious hours in assembling his suggested expansion of the Code. That Father Schaaf was qualified to perform this gratuitous task, no one will question. In parallel columns he listed canons and D.C. numbers, so that one merely looked up the particular canon under consideration and opposite it there appeared the Dewey number. We feel confident that Father Schaaf's efforts have not been in vain. Upon Miss Fellows' suggestion he is to confer with the editor of the Dewey Classification to discuss his proposed expansion. Perhaps it might be feasible to devise a system of letters entirely irrelevant to the D.C. which will capitalize the apparent wealth of assistance contained in Father Schaaf's scholarly contribution to Catholic library progress.—Ed.

Mr. Editor:

Congratulations in offering your readers Maurice Leahy's splendid article on Catholic poetry. To my mind, this article together with that of Father Dudley add a delightful seasoning of literary interest to our monthly.

A WELL-WISHER.

Among those present at the Mid-winter Conference were:

Barczak, Rev. Clement, O.F.M., St. Bonaventure Seminary, Sturtevant, Wis.
 Betten, Rev. Francis S., S.J., Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wis.
 Breig, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Augustine, St. Francis Seminary, Milwaukee, Wis.
 Brielmaier, Rev. Sylvester, O.M.C.A.P., St. Anthony's Monastery, Marathon, Wis.
 Corcoran, Very Rev. F. V., C.M., DePaul University, Chicago, Ill.
 Faber, Rev. William, O.F.M., Duns Scotus College, Detroit, Mich.
 Hillenbrand, Rev. Frederic, St. Mary-of-the-Lake, Mundelein, Ill.
 Kane, Rev. William, S.J., Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.
 Kempf, Rev. Placidus, O.S.B., Abbey Library, St. Meinrad, Ind.
 McCormick, Rev. J. F., S.J., Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.
 Nugent, Rev. J. M., O.P., Fenwick High School, Oak Park, Ill.
 Talbot, Rev. T., DePaul University, Chicago, Ill.
 Elzeir, Brother Justinus, St. George High School, Evanston, Ill.
 Cephas, Mother Mary, College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, N. Y.
 Adelgundis, Sister, O.S.B., College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, Minn.
 Anna Loretto, Sister, S.S.J., Academy of Our Lady, Peoria, Ill.
 Anna Louise, Sister, S.C.N., St. Helena's, Louisville, Ky.

Arnoldine, Sister, S.C.C., Mallinckrodt College, Wilmette, Ill.
 Auxilia, Sister, S.C.C., Mallinckrodt College, Wilmette, Ill.
 Cecil, Sister, College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, Minn.
 Eleonore, Sister, S.C.C., Mallinckrodt College, Wilmette, Ill.
 Juliana, Sister, S.C.C., Mallinckrodt College, Wilmette, Ill.
 Leonette, Sister, S.C.C., Mallinckrodt College, Wilmette, Ill.
 Loretta Theresa, Sister, O.P., St. Joseph College, Adrian, Mich.
 Maria, Sister, S.C.C., Mallinckrodt College, Wilmette, Ill.
 Marie, José, Sister, College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, Minn.
 Marie Louise, Sister, College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, N. Y.
 Mary Agnese, Sister, B.V.M., St. Mary High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Antonia, Sister, St. Mathias School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Archangela, Sister, O.S.F., Alvernia High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Aurelius, Sister, B.V.M., Clarke College, Dubuque, Iowa.
 Mary Bernadette, Sister, S.C.N., Nazareth College, Louisville, Ky.
 Mary Bonaventura, Sister, B.V.M., St. Mary High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Camilla, Sister, R.S.M., Siena High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Canisius, Sister, S.C.N., Nazareth College, Louisville, Ky.
 Mary Carmel, Sister, O.P., St. Joseph College, Adrian, Mich.
 Mary Carmelita, Sister, R.S.M., Mercy High School, Milwaukee, Wis.
 Mary Clemenze, Sister, B.V.M., Immaculata High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary DeLourdes, Sister, Briar Cliff College, Sioux City, Iowa.
 Mary de Sales, Sister, C.S.A., St. Augustine Academy, Lakewood, Ohio.
 Mary Donald, Sister, B.V.M., Mundelein College, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Ellen Theresa, Sister, C.S.A., St. Augustine Academy, Lakewood, Ohio.
 Mary Elizabeth, Sister, O.S.F., Alvernia High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Evangela, Sister, Siena High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Florence, Sister, O.S.B., Mt. St. Scholastica College, Atchison, Kansas.
 Mary Florina, Sister, St. Patrick's Academy, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Gratia, Sister, St. Xavier College, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Gregory, Sister, Holy Family Academy, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Ignatia, Sister, S.S.N.D., Academy of Our Lady, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Jacqueline, Sister, B.V.M., Immaculata High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary John Michael, Sister, B.V.M., Mundelein College, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Josepha, Sister, O.S.F., St. Joseph's Convent, Milwaukee, Wis.
 Mary Josita, Sister, B.V.M., Mundelein College, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Laurentia, Sister, O.S.M., Mt. St. Mary Academy, Cherokee, Iowa.
 Mary Luella, Sister, O.P., Rosary College, River Forest, Ill.
 Mary Madelina, Sister, B.V.M., Mundelein College, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Margaret Agnes, Sister, B.V.M., Clarke College, Dubuque, Iowa.
 Mary Mioena, Sister, Holy Family Academy, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Monica, Sister, Mercy High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Patricia, Sister, Mercy High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Reparata, Sister, O.P., Rosary College, River Forest, Ill.
 Mary Robert Hugh, Sister, B.V.M., Mundelein College, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Rose, Sister, St. Xavier College, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Serena, Sister, O.P., Rosary College, River Forest, Ill.
 Mary Servatius, Sister, O.S.F., Briar Cliff College, Sioux City, Iowa.
 Mary Sevina, Sister, O.S.F., Alvernia High School, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary St. Irene, Sister, B.V.M., Mundelein College, Chicago, Ill.
 Mary Theodora, Sister, O.S.M., Cherokee Jr. College, Cherokee, Iowa.
 Mary Theresa, Sister, S.S.N.D., Academy of Our Lady, Chicago, Ill.
 Bruce, Frank, *Catholic School Journal*, Milwaukee, Wis.
 McCarthy, Patrick J., Chicago, Ill.
 McDonell, Robert M., Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.
 Gaskell, Lillian, Mount Mary College, Chicago, Ill.
 Lawrence, Marie, South Bend, Ind.
 McEvoy, Mary, Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.
 McPartlin, Mary L., Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.
 Murphy, Jeanette J., St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind.
 Perry, Eva M., Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.
 Rigali, Camille, Daprato Library, Chicago, Ill.
 Schnoor, Helen G., DePaul University, Chicago, Ill.
 Sriubas, Violet, Mundelein College, Chicago, Ill.
 Tomczak, Agnes, St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo.
 Tompkins, Virginia H., Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.